

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 2nd November 1889.

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		ASSAM PAPERS.	
		Nil.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	" Kasipore Nibási " ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	30	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	" Ahammadí " ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
3	" Ave Maria " ...	Calcutta	.....	
4	" Divákar " ...	Ditto	.....	
5	" Gaura Duta " ...	Maldah	.....	
6	" Purva Bangabási " ...	Noakholly	.....	
7	" Purva Darpan " ...	Chittagong	700	
8	" Uttara Banga Hitaishi " ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	" Arya Darpan " ...	Calcutta	102	20th September 1889.
10	" Bangabási " ...	Ditto	20,000	26th October 1889.
11	" Burdwán Sanjibani " ...	Burdwan	302	
12	" Chandra Vilásh " ...	Berhampore	250	
13	" Cháruvartá " ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	
14	" Chattal Gazette " ...	Chittagong	800	
15	" Dacca Prakásh " ...	Dacca	1,200	
16	" Education Gazette " ...	Hooghly	885	25th ditto.
17	" Faridpur Hitaishini " ...	Faridpur	.....	
18	" Garib " ...	Dacca	3,000	
19	" Grambási " ...	Uluberia	800	26th ditto.
20	" Gaurab " ...	Ditto	.....	
21	" Guru Charana " ...	Calcutta	.....	24th ditto.
22	" Hindu Ranjika " ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	
23	" Jagatbási " ...	Calcutta	750	
24	" Murshidábád Patriká " ...	Berhampore	508	
25	" Murshidábád Pratinidhi " ...	Ditto	350	
26	" Navavibhákár Sádharani " ...	Calcutta	600	28th ditto.
27	" Pratikár " ...	Berhampore	600	
28	" Rungpore Dik Prakásh " ...	Kakinia, Rungpore	205	
29	" Sahachar " ...	Calcutta	500	23rd ditto.
30	" Samaya " ...	Ditto	3,806	25th ditto.
31	" Sanjivani " ...	Ditto	4,000	26th ditto.
32	" Sansodhini " ...	Chittagong	800	
33	" Santi " ...	Calcutta	3,722	
34	" Saráswat Patra " ...	Dacca	300	
35	" Som Prakásh " ...	Calcutta	1,000	28th ditto.
36	" Srímantha Saudagár " ...	Ditto	.....	
37	" Sulabha Samáchár o Kusadaha " ...	Ditto	800	
38	" Surabhi o Patáka " ...	Ditto	700	
<i>Daily.</i>				
39	" Dainik o Samáchár Chandriká " ...	Calcutta	1,500	22nd to 30th October 1889.
40	" Samvád Prabhákar " ...	Ditto	8,000	
41	" Samvád Purnachandrodaya " ...	Ditto	300	23rd to 31st ditto.
42	" Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká " ...	Ditto	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	" Dacca Gazette " ...	Dacca	.....	
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
44	" Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samachár Patrika. " ...	Darjeeling	20	15th October 1889.
45	" Kshatriya Pratiká " ...	Patna	200	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	" Aryávarta " ...	Calcutta	1,500	19th and 26th October 1889.
47	" Behar Bandhu " ...	Bankipore	.....	
48	" Bhárat Mitra " ...	Calcutta	16,530	24th October 1889.
49	" Sár Sudhánidhi " ...	Ditto	500	21st and 28th October 1889.
50	" Uchit Baktá " ...	Ditto	4,500	
51	" Hindi Samáchár " ...	Bhagulpore	1,000	

No.	Names of newspapers.		Place of publication.		Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
	PERSIAN.						
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
52	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	...	Calcutta	...	250	18th and 25th October 1889.	
	URDU.						
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
53	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	...	Arrah	...	300		
54	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind"	...	Calcutta	...	.....		
55	"Anis"	...	Patna	...	.....		
56	"Gauhur"	...	Calcutta	...	196		
57	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar"	...	Behar	...	150		
58	"Al Punch"	...	Bankipore	...	.....	21st October 1889.	
59	"Darusaltanat"	...	Calcutta	...	340	27th ditto.	
60	"Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad"	...	Murshidabad	...	.....		
	URIA.						
	<i>Monthly.</i>						
61	"Asha"	...	Cuttack	...	.....		
62	"Taraka and Subhavartá"	...	Ditto	...	.....		
63	"Pradíp"	...	Ditto	...	.....		
64	"Samyabadi"	...	Ditto	...	.....		
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
65	"Dipaka"	...	Cuttack	...	.....	19th	ditto.
66	"Utkal Dípiká"	...	Ditto	...	444	19th	ditto.
67	"Samvad Váhika"	...	Balasore	...	205	17th	ditto.
68	"Urya and Navasamvád"	...	Ditto	...	600	16th	ditto.
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.						
	BENGALI.						
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>						
69	"Silchar"	...	Silchar	...	500		
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
70	"Paridarshak"	...	Sylhet	...	450		

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

THE Samaya, of the 25th October, does not think that Tantia has had a just trial. Tantia was not allowed those facilities for defence which criminals guilty of capital offences are allowed under the law. The writer has no sympathy with Tantia, but he wants that his trial should be according to the law. But in the eye of the law, Tantia's trial has been unfair. In order to prove the guilt of Tantia, Government procured witnesses and engaged an able Barrister, but Tantia had no counsel and no witnesses. During the trial Tantia frankly confessed all he had done. Every one possessing a knowledge of the law says, and the writer is convinced by a perusal of the proceedings of this case, that Tantia would not have been convicted of murder if he had got a counsel to defend him. And in spite of his having had no counsel to defend him, the assessors declared him guilty only on the charge of dacoity and acquitted him on the charge of murder.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 25th, 1889.

2. The *Bangabasi*, of the 26th October, will not be sorry at the appointment of Mr. Amir Ali as successor of the Hon'ble Justice Rames Chandra Mitra on the Bench of the Calcutta High Court if the Judges of that Court consider him eligible for that office and if the Mahomedan community feel glad at his appointment.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

3. The *Sanjivani*, of the 26th October, is sorry to hear that the Hon'ble Justice Rames Chandra Mitra intends to retire shortly on account of ill-health. It is said that Mr. Amir Ali will succeed him on the Bench. If Mr. Amir Ali's claim to the post consists only in his being a Mahomedan, there will be nothing to say on the subject. But if the appointment is made on the test of fitness, many native Barristers, greatly Mr. Amir Ali's superior in ability, will be found eligible for the post.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

4. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 30th October, agrees with a correspondent of the *Englishman* newspaper in holding that Tantia did not receive a fair trial, the proceedings having been throughout marked by bias against him. The prosecution engaged the services of able lawyers, and was supported by scores of witnesses and police officers, while Tantia was wholly undefended, and had no one to put in a word for him. Even an innocent man could be convicted in this way. The writer does not say that Tantia was innocent; what he means is that his trial has not been satisfactory. The Tantia who has been now sentenced to death may or may not be the real Tantia, but it is clear that the man has no fear of death, and will make light of the punishment he is to undergo. The writer is, however, sorry for the officials, the police, and the Judge of Jubbulpore, who have incurred lasting disgrace by the manner in which they have conducted the trial.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 30th, 1889.

In passing sentence upon Tantia, the Judge gave him seven days time within which he might appeal to the Judicial Commissioner against the decision. That time has passed away, and an appeal, if made, is not likely to be successful. The officials evidently think it necessary to take Tantia's life, or sentence of death would not have been passed when it was open to the Court to pass a lighter sentence. This is proved by the fact that, though Tantia had been already sentenced to transportation for life, he has been again sentenced to death. Courage has been lacking to keep Tantia alive, even in exile. Is the thought of Shere Ali working here? Thugs and Pindaris have been put to death without trial, and there is no reason why a different treatment should be accorded to the Bhil?

But the point to be most objected to is the mode of Tantia's trial. The prisoner was not given any opportunity to collect witnesses or to obtain legal assistance, and was kept surrounded by armed police officers to strike terror into his heart.

The witnesses against Tantia were afraid of giving evidence against him, and will now require the protection of Government against the wrath of Tantia's followers, and if Tantia is put to death the difficulties of these men will increase, and not a few cases of murder, mutilation and incendiarism will, it is feared, crop up.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

SANJIVANI
Oct. 26th, 1889.

5. The *Sanjivani*, of the 26th October, says that the Bengal Tenancy Act has failed to produce the beneficial results which were expected to be derived

from it. Instead of preventing the oppression of the ryot by the zemindar, establishing peace and good feeling between them, and providing facilities for the realisation of the zemindar's dues, the passing of the measure has been the cause of dangerous disputes between the parties. Thinking that the new law has conferred valuable rights upon the ryot, the zemindar is busy extorting from him kabuliyats containing extremely rigorous conditions, and is having all the different *abwabs* hitherto collected from him included in his rent as a permanent charge. As an illustration, a form of kabuliyat which the royts of Barmijoar, in the district of Mymensingh, are being made to give to their zemindar is here reproduced. The following is a summary of the conditions in the kabuliyat :—

1. The ryot agrees to pay the variable or unfixed (অস্থির) rent according to the conditions prescribed until the next enhancement takes place.

2. The ryot agrees to pay his rent in four equal quarterly instalments, and, in the event of his making default in that respect, agrees to pay interest at the rate of 6 pies in the rupee.

3. The ryot agrees to have his homestead, as well as his cultivated land, surveyed at the zemindar's pleasure, and to pay excess rent at the prescribed rates for any excess land that may be discovered in his possession at the survey.

4. The ryot agrees not to cut down or sell any fruit trees or any other valuable tree without the permission of the zemindar, and in the event of his doing so, to pay to the zemindar three times the proper value of the tree so cut down or sold.

5. The ryot agrees not to transfer to any person by gift, sale, or otherwise his holding or any portion thereof, such transfer, if made, not conferring any rights on the transferee, and empowering the zemindar to take *khas* possession of the land so transferred.

6. The ryot agrees not to alter the condition or nature of his holding, to dig tanks, or construct masonry buildings, on pain of ejection.

7. The ryot agrees to pay enhanced rent.

8. The ryot agrees to pay the road and public works cesses and any other cesses which Government may impose on the holding, subject to the condition set forth in the kabuliyat respecting instalment and interest.

9. The ryot agrees that the zemindar and his heirs after him shall have right to all mines and minerals which may be discovered in his holding.

10. The ryot agrees that, in the event of his holding or any portion thereof being taken up by Government or the road cess office under the law, the zemindar and his heirs after him will be entitled to the compensation money.

11. The ryot agrees to surrender to the zemindar or his heirs after him any land forming part of his holding which they may require for

any purpose on condition that the rent of the land so taken up should be deducted from the total amount of rent payable by him.

12. The ryot agrees not to pay any rent without obtaining a receipt for the same, all plea of payment of rent being inadmissible without a receipt.

13. The ryot agrees that the abatement of rent now granted as a favour may be made good at the zemindar's pleasure.

14. The ryot agrees to keep the boundaries, &c., in good order, and to do nothing which may be against the law, and binds himself to punctually furnish all such information to the police and to the zemindar as ought to be furnished by him.

(h)—General.

6. The *Samaya*, of the 25th October, referring to Mr. Hutchins' statement in the Viceregal Council that it has been settled in consultation with the Secretary of State that the dismissed mamlatdars will continue to draw their respective salaries, remarks that every one must praise the liberality shown by Government in this matter. Under the proposed arrangement, Lord Reay's promise to the mamlatdars will be substantially kept and the purity of the Subordinate Executive Service of Bombay will be secured.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 25th, 1889.

7. The *Sanjivani*, of the 26th October, says that the mountain labour of the Public Service Commission has brought forth a mouse after all. A large amount of money and the time of several high officers of Government have been wasted on it. But the result derived from the labours of the Commission is very trifling. The Commission recorded evidence in all parts of India and a voluminous report was published. That report was submitted to the Secretary of State for India for consideration, with the remarks of the Viceroy thereon. But the Secretary of State at last says that, in his opinion, any fresh legislation for the larger employment of natives in the public service is unnecessary, and that the existing law on the subject is sufficient. But the question is, why have not natives been up to this time largely employed in the public service in spite of the existing law and the financial difficulties of Government? The Queen's proclamation contains many pledges, but how many of those pledges have been redeemed? There can be no doubt that if a large number of natives were taken into the public service on the strength of the evidence recorded by the Public Service Commission a far larger amount of the country's money would remain within the country itself.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

The raising of the age limit for the Civil Service Examination will produce two good results—It will lead to a diminution of acts of high-handedness by young and inexperienced civilians, and it will remove the obstacles which natives now meet with in competing for the Civil Service.

8. The same paper thus combats one of the speakers at the recent meeting of the Bengal Provincial Conference who said that it was desirable to have village unions, but village unions would be very bad things to have if this establishment were attended with fresh taxation:—

SANJIVANI.

A fresh tax will no doubt be a source of increased hardship to the poor ryot. But the ryot already pays to the zemindar a much larger sum in the shape of *abwabs* than any fresh tax will take from him; and whilst he receives nothing in return for the *abwabs* he pays, he will receive the inestimable boon of health in return for the tax which he will pay for the improvement of village sanitation through the agency of the village union. If he once realizes the benefits of improved sanitation, he will pay a sanitation tax in an ungrudging spirit.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 28th, 1889.

9. The same paper refers to the pensioning off of a leper from Government service in Madras, and asks, will not the attention of the Government of Bengal be directed to this subject? Lepers should not be retained in the public service where they come in contact with a large number of persons and thus spread their disease. Every Provincial Government ought to direct its attention to this important question.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Oct. 28th, 1889.

10. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 28th October, says that that mountain of the Public Service Commission has brought forth only a mouse. Those who hoped for great things from this Commission are bitterly disappointed by the despatch of the Secretary of State on its recommendations. The writer himself never hoped for great things from it, and is not therefore in the least mortified by the despatch. The writer never expected that Government would listen to the recommendation that natives should be largely appointed to high posts.

The cunning English Government appointed the Public Service Commission only in order to put a stop to the clamour of the natives for high posts. The appointment of the Commission kept them quiet for a short time, and now Government has published its decision that it is not unwilling to appoint natives to high posts, but that, considering the responsibilities of many posts, it is expedient to appoint only able and tried men to those posts. It is superfluous to say that none but Englishmen will be considered to be the able and tried men required for these posts. How far the Public Service Commission has fulfilled the native's hope of obtaining high posts in the public service is shown by the Secretary of State's acceptance of its recommendations to the effect that the Statutory Civil Service should be abolished and no Civil Service Examination should be held in India.

But the Commission has conferred one benefit upon the people of India. At its recommendation the Secretary of State has raised the age limit for the Civil Service Examination from 19 to 23. The writer rejoices at this not because it will afford greater facilities for the admission of natives into the Civil Service, but because it will rid the country of the raw and beardless officers who now pester it so much.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 29th, 1889.

11. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 29th October, says that Lord Lansdowne's action in regard to the *Prajá Bandhu* newspaper has not increased the writer's respect for his Lordship. The interdiction of this journal, coming close after the Official Secrets Act, is an indication that the new law is intended to have a more repressive effect than Lord Lytton's Press Act. As the Ministry in England is coming towards a new election, it is probably using Lord Lansdowne as its agent in the work of depriving the Indian press of its freedom. But it is the writer's belief that if, at the next election, the Tory Ministry fall, and the Liberals come into power, the Liberal Ministry will have to send a wise and farsighted statesman to take the place of Lord Lansdowne, just as another Liberal Ministry had to send Lord Ripon to take the place of Lord Lytton. The country has become a little too hot, and Lord Lansdowne, it is certain, will not be allowed to serve the full term of his office.

The *Prajá Bandhu* has been made an example of with a view of warning other newspapers. This is clear from the Government's statement that if the *Prajá Bandhu* had been published within British territory it would have been indicted under the Penal Code. Which means that, if any paper, published within British territory, writes against Government, it will be proceeded against under the Penal Code. There can be no doubt that the *Prajá Bandhu* ought not to have published the articles to which

exception has been taken. But any paper may incur Government's displeasure by publishing articles not quite so bad as the *Prajá Bandhu's*. Where there is a desire to find fault, any one may be thrown into trouble. And there is no doubt that the desire to find fault is very strong in the official mind; and under the new law it is the officials themselves who will decide which writing is objectionable and which not.

When the insignificant *Prajá Bandhu* has been made to feel Government's anger and ill-will, no one is safe. Where a word would have been sufficient, there recourse has been had to cannonading. There is cause for fear—there is cause for apprehension. But not for newspapers—for the Government.

12. The *Dainik o Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 30th October, says that there can be no doubt that the six articles in the *Prajá Bandhu* newspaper which have

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 30th, 1889.

The *Prajá Bandhu*.

been condemned by Government are objectionable. But out of those six articles the three on Cashmere affairs appear to have most annoyed Lord Lansdowne. Cashmere is responsible for the hastily passed Official Secrets Act, and it is Cashmere again which has proved the ruin of the *Prajá Bandhu*. But is not all this injuring the fair fame of Lord Lansdowne? One is here reminded of the story of the man who at one period of his life worked as a *gharámi* (builder of thatched huts) with a sickle for his implement, and ever afterwards lost his temper whenever he saw that implement. This distemper at last grew so strong that he began to be ruffled by the sight of anything looking like a sickle. And so, as time went on, he began to abuse even the moon's crescent, and to cut down tamarind trees whose fruit looks like a sickle. Nay, he went further, and tore all books to pieces within which he saw the sign of interrogation, and became particularly troublesome to the hunchbacks he came across. It is hard to say how far Lord Lansdowne will find himself obliged to proceed on account of this Cashmere affair. It may be, he will require the letters which make up the word C-a-s-h-m-e-r-e to be expelled from the alphabet. The impatience and shortness of temper shown by the Viceroy, who is ordinarily noted for calmness of temper, is exceedingly to be regretted. "The discontinuance of even hundreds of *Prajá Bandhus* will cause us no regret, but we cannot bear to see such impatience and hasty temper in any one of our Viceroys. Has Lord Cross too lost his wits and become imbecile? There cannot be the least doubt that Lord Lansdowne's policy will bear evil fruit."

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

The Official Secrets Bill.

13. The *Sahachar*, of the 23rd October, has the following on the Official Secrets Bill:—

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 23rd, 1889.

The Bill aims at punishing the publication of official secrets. But who will decide what things or matters are to be regarded as official secrets? Suppose two high officers of Government travelling in a railway carriage begin to talk about Cashmere and their conversation is overheard by the editor of a newspaper who happens to be in the same carriage and is published by him in his paper. Or, suppose a Government clerk or an Under-Secretary carelessly leaves in a carriage some important State paper which then finds its way into the press. Or, suppose, again, that somebody comes to know, by some means or other, the doings of an officer like Sir Lepel Griffin and publishes them in a paper. Will the proposed law apply to these cases? If it does, then wherein shall a country ruled by England differ from Russia, Turkey, and Germany? It is not wrong to punish the procuring of official papers by unfair means. But if the Viceroy's reference to the *Amirta Bazar Patrika* in the course of the debate on this Bill can be interpreted as foreshadowing the way in which the new law will be enforced,

then there will be an end of all political discussion in the country. For no such discussion will be possible without citing cases and examples, and the citing of cases and examples will bring the person or persons citing them under the clutches of the new law.

The proposed law will lead to much oppression in a country like India. There being no representative assemblies in this country with power to ask Government for any information that is wanted, Government often finds it necessary to send information to the press for the purpose of satisfying public curiosity. This is why Foreign Office intelligence is often published in the *Pioneer*, and letters written by the Secretaries to Government, often with the knowledge of the Viceroy, are also published in that paper. And how will the *Pioneer* be favoured in this way if the Bill in question becomes law? For it will be impossible to contend that what is good in the case of the *Pioneer* is bad in the case of other papers. The Government of India should therefore carefully consider this matter. There can be no objection to punishing those who either divulge important military information, or procure by unfair means official papers marked as confidential. But to punish people, as the proposed law contemplates doing, for publishing any kind of secret information whatever, will certainly be very hard. For if that is done, then punishment will follow the publication of whatever the Secretaries choose to call confidential. Government now spends eight months in the year in the hills, and during that time it loses all touch with the people. If the proposed law is passed, rumours of all sorts will therefore be circulated and find ready believers among the people. And will that be a desirable state of things after all? Of all Governments the Government of India is in a special measure under the necessity of keeping its subjects well informed of its acts. If it had always done so, there would not have been the mutiny of 1857.

The practical working of the proposed law will be beset with difficulty. If the law is impartially administered, big officials will occasionally come under its clutches, and efforts will be necessarily made to save them. The question of "prestige" will in that case crop up as a matter of course, and the charge of being partial to Europeans and to particular papers will come to be preferred against Government.

It is no argument whatever that because a law has been passed in England prohibiting the publication of official secrets, therefore a similar law must be passed in India. For what is prohibited in England is often permitted in India. Marriage with a deceased wife's sister, for instance, is prohibited in England, but is prevalent even amongst the Native Christians of India.

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 24th, 1889.

14. The *Dainik o Samachar Chandrika*, of the 24th October, says:—

The Official Secrets Act.

Wonderful is the power of Western politics. In connection with the legislation about official secrets, the Viceroy shewed only a *dhonra* (an inoffensive snake), and is now playing with a *keutia* (the black variety of the poisonous cobra). The English Official Secrets Act, an unobjectionable measure, was reproduced in the Gazette in the form of a Bill, and when the people were deceived by this stroke of policy, alterations were made in the Bill and it was passed into law without the public being given an opportunity of discussing it. Yes, this is the way bad laws should be made. It was in this way that Lord Lytton passed the Vernacular Press Act, and it is in this way that Lord Lansdowne passed this Act XV. This it is which goes by the name of Western statesmanship!

The English Act is unobjectionable, but the Indian Act is objected to on all hands. The Indian Act contains everything that is in the English Act, and something more which is not to be found in that Act, which no one had any right to put therein, and any attempt to insert which therein would have convulsed the whole of the British isles. Lord Lansdowne and

his Councillors have secretly inserted these objectionable and repressive provisions in the Indian Bill. The necessity of passing laws in this fashion accounts for the present constitution of the Legislative Councils, and they are dunces who forget this and expect an expansion of those Councils on a representative basis.

The first portion of the Official Secrets Act is entirely new, and is intended to apply to native newspapers, and to newspapers which are favourable to native interests. These papers are not supplied with official information, and are therefore often obliged to write on the strength of rumour. Instances of publication of confidential State papers like Sir Mortimer Durand's note, the Tipperah report, or the Veasey circular in native papers are few and far between. But Government has many secrets, and any reference to, or discussion of, such secret matters by vernacular newspapers on the strength of rumour after the new law has come into force will be sure to bring the writers into trouble. Information frequently reaches native editors to the effect that this or that Secretary to Government has recorded a minute against a particular zemindar or a particular officer, and much writing in the native press is based upon such information. The exposure made in the native press of the doings of the Commissioner, Mr. Beames, and the Collector, Mr. Price, was rendered possible only by this means. But it will no longer be possible to discuss the doings of such offending officials in the vernacular newspapers. Sir John Edgar's report on the Orissa famine contains reflections on the Commissioner of Orissa, as may be gathered from a perusal of the Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution on the subject; but it will not be open to the native press to refer to that matter beyond stating "that it is probable" that the Commissioner has been censured by Government for his failure to do his duty during the famine.

"The disease which preys upon the officials will remain undetected, the Political Officers in Cashmere, Tipperah and other Native States will do what they like, anarchy will increase in the country, and the area of official high-handedness will be enlarged. We ourselves may say nothing against all this, but where the cause exists the effect must make its appearance. The present law will do immense harm to the ruler, not to the subject. The Indian will go on relying on fate—he can bear everything.

"Lord Lytton's red-hot Act IX made the country hot, and Lord Lansdowne's red-hot Act XV too will do the same. The fear is for the ruler—we have no fear for the people."

15. The *Samaya*, of the 25th October, delivers itself as follows on the Official Secrets Act:—

The Official Secrets Act.

A gilt ornament does not long retain its glitter, nor does the real character of a wolf in sheep's skin long remain hidden. We had our suspicions about Lord Lansdowne from the very first. Those suspicions were strengthened by his action in regard to Cashmere. And they have now been fully confirmed by the Official Secrets Act. Even those who sang the praises of Lord Lansdowne on his first arrival in this country have now found him out. We long ago assigned to Lord Lansdowne a place by the side of Lord Lytton.

This will sound harsh, but there is no help for it. Lord Lytton created disturbances on the north-western frontier, burdened the Indians with taxation, and attempted to gag the Native press. Lord Lansdowne is pouring money, the blood as it were of the starving people, on the fortifications of the north-western frontier, and is daily adding to the burdens of the people. He has created disturbances in Cashmere and some other Native States, and he has passed the Official Secrets Act with the view of stopping the mouth of the Native press. Finding the Native papers loud

SAMAYA,
Oct. 25th, 1889.

in their protest against his actions, Lord Lytton passed Act IX of 1878, and finding the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* engaged in exposing the various evil designs of Government and the insincerity of its professions regarding Cashmere Lord Lansdowne has passed the Official Secrets Act. Thus there is great likeness between Lord Lytton and Lord Lansdowne, and the comparison is not unjust. It is difficult to understand how Lord Lansdowne was able to earn praise by his administration of Canada.

The Act is such that even Lord Lytton's Press Act appears to have been better than it. Its first part in some measure resembles the English Act on the subject, but its second part is wholly new. The first part makes the furnishing of information regarding Indian forts, powder magazines, &c., to any foreign Government a punishable offence. We are glad that such a provision has been made. The second part provides that if anybody furnishes another with intelligence which Government regards as confidential, both furnisher and receiver will be liable to punishment. An Act like the Official Secrets Act may suit England, where the system of self-government obtains in a complete measure, and where the people know how to guard their rights, and where any abuse of the powers conferred by such an Act is sure to give rise to an agitation which will shake Parliament itself to its centre. But the people of India have no such safeguards or remedies against any abuse of the provisions of the Act. If the editor of any native newspaper is imprisoned under the new Act, there will be a clamour indeed, but the clamour will be perfectly useless and ineffective. The civilised world condemns the Czar of Russia and the Sultan of Turkey because they do not respect the freedom of the press. But now the English Government, which piques itself so much on its civilisation, has now armed itself with the Official Secrets Act in order to curb the freedom of the native press. This is a great disgrace to the English Government. By passing this Act Lord Lansdowne has shown to the whole civilised world how India is governed by the English Government. The Government, which, instead of feeling ashamed at the exposure of its evil deeds, tries to punish the exposé, deserves no other epithet than weak and tyrannical. A despotic Government wants to conceal every one of its evil acts in the same way as the thief loves darkness.

Granting that all that the Viceroy says about the discrepancy between the original memorandum of Sir Mortimer Durand and the document purporting to be a true copy thereof and published in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is true, that paper cannot be accused of having acted in bad faith. The Viceroy's own statements show that the two documents are substantially the same, and the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* cannot therefore be considered guilty of having intentionally garbled the Foreign Secretary's note. Lord Lansdowne has done a wrong thing by imputing motives to the *Patrika*.

There are some semi-official papers in this country, such as the *Pioneer*. Will Government ever prosecute the *Pioneer* for publishing any confidential intelligence? Certainly not. The main object of the Official Secrets Act is to punish somehow or other the non-official papers, and especially those native papers which criticise the acts of Government officials in an independent spirit.

What the Anglo-Indians had been crying for for some time past has now been done. The native press has been gagged. Under the new Act, Government will be able to punish at its pleasure the publisher and furnisher of any secret of any department of Government. Lord Lytton's Press Act provided for a trial; but under Lord Lansdowne's Act the Judge will be bound to punish any person whom Government may accuse of having published any Government secret, whether true or false, correct or erroneous, and whether or no its publication does any harm. Such is the Official Secrets Act!

The *Pioneer* is very hard upon the native papers, against whom it brings the charge of unlawfully obtaining official documents and publishing them. This is like the sieve abusing the needle for the one hole in it. Does not the *Pioneer* often receive official documents before they reach the Viceroy himself? Did not Sir Mortimer Durand inform the *Pioneer* of the Cabul Mission before the Viceroy himself had been informed of it? And did not the *Pioneer* recently publish extracts from the Secretary of State's despatch on the report of the Public Service Commission before the publication of that document in the Gazette? The *Pioneer* obtained this last document by unlawful means. We therefore wait to see how Government deals with the thief and the receiver of stolen goods in this instance. There can be no doubt that the law would have been enforced if the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* had acted as the *Pioneer* has done in this matter.

16. The *Bangabasi*, of the 26th October, will not join in the clamour raised by its contemporaries against the Official Secrets Act. The Act has indirectly gagged the press, but it is of no use clamouring against it.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

The people of India are completely at the mercy of their English rulers. The English rulers of India have graciously granted to the natives privileges which even the people of many independent countries do not enjoy. It is a mistake to take these favours in the light of popular rights. It is with the view of deluding the people of India that the English have given them these nominal rights, and it is a pity the Indians are deluded. But their delusion is harmful to themselves, for in their delusion they fail to see what it is they should strive to get, and what not. The act of Government which is calculated to undeceive them and open their eyes to their real status and condition is, therefore, an act which is good for them and bad for the Government. Government has done well in passing the Official Secrets Bill. Every attempt of the British rulers of India to deprive the natives of their rights and privileges and to make them feel that they are a down-trodden subject people is highly beneficial to them. Beggars have neither rights nor claims, and the people of India will make no real improvement so long as they do not understand this and keep it in mind.

17. The *Sanjivani*, of the 26th October, says that the Mamlutdars Indemnity Act is a very satisfactory measure. By passing this Act, Government has redeemed the pledge given by Lord Reay, and has at the same time maintained the dignity of justice by removing corrupt officers from the judicial service.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

18. The same paper is glad to learn that Government is going to reorganise the Supreme and Provincial Legislative Councils on a partially representative basis. If this is done, Lord Lansdowne's administration will be recorded in Indian History in characters of gold, and his Lordship's name will, like that of Lord Ripon, be gratefully cherished in the hearts of the people.

SANJIVANI.

19. The same paper has the following on the Official Secrets Act:—
Government has acted shamefully in passing the Official Secrets Act so hurriedly. Lord Lansdowne's attempt to destroy the power and influence of the press has been of the same nature as Lord Lytton's attempt to destroy its liberty. The writer would have felt no regret whatever if the provisions of the Bill had been restricted to the adoption of punitive measures against those who might seek to injure the Empire by disclosing measures taken or contemplated for its protection against foreign invasion. He would, on the contrary, have gladly supported Government in that case in passing the law.

SANJIVANI.

But it has been shameful on the part of Government to render penal the publication of papers, the laying of which before the public involves

Government in no danger and throws light on the internal administration of the empire. Take an illustration. A head-constable of Police, acting under the Veasey circular, submits a false and malicious report regarding an association, and the editor of a newspaper publishes the report in his paper and exposes the police officer and the real nature of his report. The editor will be liable to punishment under the Official Secrets Act for doing so proper and necessary an act!

Again, the Act does not clearly define what is to be understood by official secrets. The definition of official secrets will therefore depend on the construction that may be put thereon by the prosecutor in each case. This law will be the best means of hiding the misdeeds of public servants.

The *Pioneer* and other newspapers, who have secured a monopoly of official secrets by paying money to high Government officers, are glad at the passing of the Official Secrets Act, because it will defeat the attempt which was being made to destroy their monopoly. The new law will enable Government officers to earn money by supplying information to the *Pioneer* and other papers as before. A strong agitation should be made against this fatal Act.

ARYAVARTA
Oct. 26th, 1889.

20. The *Aryavarta*, of the 26th October, knows not how to characterise the action of Government in passing the Official Secrets Bill into law. The Act will

The Official Secrets Act.

do harm both to the rulers and to the ruled. The Viceroy has done a wrong thing in forcing upon the people an Act which they did not want. Official documents are placed upon the tables of the Houses of Parliament and are freely criticised by the press in England. Why should then the publication of similar documents in Indian newspapers be visited with punishment? Indian officials act in a highhanded manner. But if any one hereafter criticises those acts, he will be punished under the Official Secrets Act! Nice justice this!

DARUSSALTANAT,
Oct. 27th, 1889.

21. The *Darussaltanat*, of the 27th October, strongly condemns the Official Secrets Act. Government ought to

The Official Secrets Act.

define clearly what is meant by official secrets; otherwise bad officers will put people to trouble by enforcing the Act.

SARSUDHANIDHI,
Oct. 28th, 1889.

22. The *Sarsudhanidhi*, of the 28th October, blames Lord Lansdowne for passing the Official Secrets Act so hurriedly.

The Official Secrets Act.

His Lordship might have taken up the matter on the reassembling of the Council in Calcutta. But he is so hasty and impatient that he has been unable to wait even for one month. Lord Lansdowne resembles Lord Lytton in his attitude towards the press. The Anglo-Indian officials and newspapers, who were very sorry at the abolition of Lord Lytton's Press Act, are jubilant over Lord Lansdowne's Official Secrets Act. The Act will do immense mischief to Government. The writer wants to know whether the policy of the Act has the approval of the authorities in England.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Oct. 28th, 1889.

23. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 28th October, greatly regrets that Lord Lansdowne should become unpopular before the expiration of one full year after

The Official Secrets Act.

his arrival in this country. The people of India do not hold him responsible for the deposition of Maharaja Pratap Singh, for they know that that measure was the handiwork of Lord Dufferin, and that His Excellency's connection with it is of a purely accidental nature. But His Excellency has certainly lost the sympathy of the people of India by that unseemly display of feeling made by him on the occasion of the passing of the Official Secrets Act. His speech on that occasion betrayed the same want of sympathy with the natives of India that Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's dinner did; and his "thief and receiver of stolen goods" was expressive of as much contempt as Lord Dufferin's "microscopic minority."

Instead of explaining, as he should have done, why the Act was being so hurriedly passed, Lord Lansdowne so far forgot his position as to gratify himself by making a scurrilous attack on the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. And what His Excellency said in regard to Cashmere and the *Patrika* has only confirmed the suspicion in the public mind that Government entertains very evil designs against that State. That His Excellency was so angry with the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is simply because it has exposed the designs which Government secretly entertains against Cashmere.

Government has said one thing and done another thing in the matter of this legislation. By publishing the English Act on the subject in this country, it led the people to believe that the Indian Act would be on the lines of the English Act; but it has subsequently inserted provisions of a very different nature in the Indian Act. Is not this calculated to produce the belief that the Act has been passed mainly with the view of putting down the Native press, and that mention of the English Act was made only for the purpose of deluding the people?

24. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 28th October, says that it was in an evil hour that the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* published Sir Mortimer Durand's secret note

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 28th, 1889.

The Official Secrets Act. regarding Gilgit. The *Patrika's* persistent exposure of the reckless doings of the high officials has at length met with its vengeance at the hands of Government. Government did nothing, and apparently seemed unmoved, when Sir Lepel Griffin was being exposed in the columns of the *Patrika*; nor did it betray any sign of anger when the *Sanjivani* published the confidential Veasey circular. But the long smouldering fire has at last blazed out, and a thunderbolt has descended from a blue sky. The publication of an official note recorded during Lord Dufferin's administration has greatly enraged the present Viceroy, and being all on fire as it were, His Lordship has hurled his thunderbolt at the liberty of the vernacular press. But why so much anger? And why such haste in passing the Official Secrets Bill into law? Could there have been any harm in making it law upon calm and careful consideration after the return of the Government to Calcutta? No; the Viceroy was unable to wait. But considering that the main allegations of the *Patrika* are true, what is the good of shewing so much anger simply because the *Patrika* has published the note? It is exceedingly to be regretted that a wise and profound statesman like Lord Lansdowne has made himself responsible for this hasty legislation. The people of India will have really no one to look up to for help if their Viceroy thus loses temper for a most trivial reason. They may appeal to him against the acts of his subordinate officers, but to whom are they to appeal against His Excellency's own decision? The writer would therefore appeal to His Excellency against himself, and ask him to reconsider the new law on his return to Calcutta, and make such amendments in it as will remove public anxiety and apprehension. Admitting that the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has done something wrong, it is not just to pass a law which will have practically the effect of taking away the liberty of the entire Native press. Again, ought there to be any official secrets at all? There is no need of concealing a thing which is not bad. Let Government do its duty with honesty and single-mindedness, and there will be no necessity for such legislation as the Official Secrets Act.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

25. The *Bangabási*, of the 26th October, is sorry to find that the reports which are published in the Government Gazette on the prospects of the crops and the condition of the people do not agree with the real state of things in this respect. The writer asked some of

BANGABASI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

Gazette reports on the prospects of the crops.

those officers who furnish these reports why the condition of the people is represented to be satisfactory even in places which suffer from scarcity. The reply given by one of them was that he was once indirectly censured for having represented the true state of things, and that he has not therefore since that time submitted correct reports. Another replied that he has found his reports published in the Gazette with alterations which gave them quite another and a favourable aspect. That such things as these officers speak of occur frequently is clear from the fact that in no instance is scarcity in any place mentioned or foreshadowed in the Government Gazettes.

BANGABASI.

26. The same paper has received the following from a correspondent on distress in the Contai sub-division of the Midnapore district :—

Distress in the Contai sub-division
of the Midnapore district.

In August 1888 the crops in the Contai sub-division of the Midnapore district were submerged by excessive rainfall. The matter was at that time reported to Government, but it took no notice of it. The Contai sub-division is now visited by a dreadful famine. The scarcity in the sub-division is by no means less than that which exists in Orissa, in Behar, and in the Diamond Harbour sub-division. Some people are getting only one meal a day, and the majority are getting meals at intervals of two or three days. The meals consist principally of a herb named *gora*, of *sajná sák*, and of the *sáluk* and its stem. The people have been reduced to skeletons and their eyes are sunk deep in the sockets. Supported by staffs, these feeble figures totter from door to door begging for food in a scarcely audible voice. A case of death from starvation has occurred, and deaths from that cause will steadily increase in number. Looting of corn in broad daylight has already commenced, and a man has been sentenced to whipping for the theft of rice soaked in water.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

27. The *Sanjivani*, of the 26th October, publishes the following letter from Babu Rasik Lal Ghosh, the Agent of the Indian Association, sent to Behar to open relief works in the famine-stricken parts of that province :— “ I went to Jadupatti, a village in the Sitamarhi sub-division of the Mozufferpore district, in Behar, to open relief works there. I first thought of getting work done in return for aid given by me, and I accordingly offered the people paddy to husk and cotton to be made into yarn. They readily accepted the task of husking paddy, but showed no inclination to make yarn. By this means relief was afforded to a large number of needy people; but the most wretched and poor, who had no houses and implements, and who were most in need of help, received no benefit from this arrangement. For this class of people I decided upon opening an *annachhatra*. But before doing so, I inspected the working of the *annachhatras* opened by Government at Parihar and Sursar in the Sitamarhi subdivision, and at Bagbar in the Madhubani subdivision. The Parihar and Sursar *annachhatras* were worked in a different style from the Bagbar *annachhatra*. But all of them were organised on the lines laid down in the Famine Code. At Bagbar the poor were supplied with food according to age as stated in the tickets given to them. They came and worked in the morning and were given sufficient food. No oppression was committed on the poor, and everything was smoothly managed. Mr. Maude, the Subdivisional Officer of Madhubani, inspected this asylum once a week, and sometimes once in two weeks.

At Parihar and Sursar tin tickets were suspended from the necks of all who regularly went there for relief. The cooks did what they pleased, and the supply of the quantity of *khechuri* depended on their will and pleasure. The poor sufferers were at first supplied with one handful of *khechuri* each, and when they clamoured for more, some of them were given

a little more and the rest were beaten and turned out. Mr. Mackintosh, the Subdivisional Officer of Sitamarhi, did not visit these *annachhatras* at all. He apparently wanted to manage them at a small cost and without the aid of a sufficient number of servants. Hence the absence of all method therein. And this is why, in spite of the earnest labours of Baboo Srish Chandra Mazumdar, the Sub-Deputy Collector, the *annachhatras* could not be worked in an orderly manner.

I next established my *annachhatra* on my own plan. I selected a number of villages as my field of operation. I then visited every house in those villages and distributed tickets among those whom I considered to be deserving of charity. Only the ticket-holders obtained food at my *annachhatra*. I called the register of the names of the ticket-holders, and inspected their tickets, which were numbered and signed by me, before giving them food. This prevented fraud by making it impossible for one man to make use of another man's ticket. And when a ticket was lost a fresh ticket was issued. The cooks distributed food in my presence, and everyone was allowed as much as he could eat, but no one was allowed to take rice home. Rice was prepared from paddy and *dāl* from pulses by the famine-stricken people themselves, and so rice and *dāl* were both free from *kunkur*. Those who refused to take food cooked at the *annachhatra* for fear of losing caste, obtained relief by husking paddy and grinding pulses at their houses. Milk, fuel, grass, fish, vegetables, &c., were sold to me cheaper than at the bazar. Government officers frequently inspected my *annachhatra* and approved of my management. I requested Mr. Mackintosh to inspect my *annachhatra*, but he appeared unwilling to leave Sitamarhi.

The ryots of Behar are an oppressed class of people, and the ryots of the zemindars of Surgar are highly oppressed. The zemindars are widows, and their dewans manage everything. These dewans commit unspeakable oppressions on the ryots. It is true these zemindars have placed a considerable sum of money in the hands of Government for relief works, but they have not hesitated to collect rent from their famine-stricken ryots by force and *zulm*. This may appear anomalous, but it is easily and clearly explained. The Magistrate demanded money from them for relief work, and they gave him money because it was not safe to displease him, and not from philanthropic motives. Of all the Behar zemindars the Maharaja of Durbhanga deserves credit for disinterested philanthropy. He has not placed a single pice in the hands of Government, and has stopped the collection of rent from his ryots, opened *annochhatras*, and advanced money for agricultural operations. There is no oppression within his zemindari, which is ably managed. He is a model zemindar.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

28 The *Sahachar*, of the 23rd October, says that the proceedings of the last meeting of the Provincial Conference were conducted in an admirable manner.

The Bengal Provincial Conference.

The speakers spoke with caution and moderation, and expressed a becoming appreciation of the service rendered to the country by Government. The fact that the members of the Conference have appointed a Committee to enquire into the way in which land is being acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, and certificates are issued by Revenue officers, shews that they mean to do nothing recklessly and without careful enquiry. Considering the patience and moderation displayed by the Conference at its last meeting, the writer hopes that Government will take its demands into consideration, so far as it will be possible for it to do so.

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 23rd, 1889.

SAHACHAR.

Tantia Bhil.

29. The same paper has the following on Tantia Bhil:—

Tantia has been sentenced to death. He was undefended, and the prosecution against him was conducted by an able barrister. Nevertheless, the writer is not prepared to say that he has been unjustly sentenced.

But as the offences with which Tantia is charged were committed long ago, and as a large number of dacoits are likely to be captured by keeping Tantia under police surveillance, the sentence passed on him may, with advantage, be commuted to one of imprisonment for life.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 25th, 1889.

30. The *Samaya*, of the 25th October, says that there seems to be no foundation for the rumour that Sir Steuart Bayley will retire at the end of the current year, and that Sir David Barbour will be Lieutenant-Governor after him. Sir Steuart has reigned only for two and a half years, and it cannot be believed that he will retire so soon; and the more so as His Honour has, in various way, won the sympathy of the people confided to his care. It is hoped that the rumour will prove false.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

31. Referring to the sentence of death passed on Tantia Bhil, the *Sanjivani*, of the 26th October, makes the following observations:—

Tantia Bhil.

The assessors have unanimously pronounced Tantia Bhil not guilty on the charge of murder, but the judge holds him guilty on that charge, and has accordingly sentenced him to death. Tantia, it should be also noted, was undefended during his trial. However serious Tantia's offence may be, a consideration of his past history is calculated to awaken sympathy with him. Injustice and oppression did indeed drive him to adopt a dacoit's life. But he has, during his career, shown such ability and kindness to the poor, and performed so many acts of charity and benevolence, that the probability is that, if mercy is shown to him and his life is spared, he will develop into a really great and noble character. If mercy is shown to him, he will repent himself of his past misdeeds, and his heart will be animated with feelings of gratitude to the Government. He may be still employed with signal advantage as a detective for suppressing dacoity in the Central Provinces. Government is requested to reconsider his case. Let Tantia's life be spared in commemoration of the visit of Prince Albert Victor.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 26th, 1889.

32. The *Bangabasi*, of the 26th October, is glad to learn that the rumour that Sir Steuart Bayley would retire at the end of the present year, and that Sir David Barbour would succeed him, is false.

Rumoured retirement of Sir Steuart Bayley.

Governors of the type of Sir Steuart Bayley are very rare. His Honour has endeared himself to both natives and foreigners by his good qualities. The writer would have been really sorry if His Honour had retired so soon.

BANGABASI.

33. Referring to the recent Resolution of the Government of India describing the procedure to be followed in the treatment of cases of indebtedness of Government clerks, the same paper says that these inquiries will only lead to the dismissal of a few poor clerks who have been obliged to incur debts owing to their inability to make the two ends meet. In considering the cases of Government employes in debt, it would be proper to inquire why they have incurred debts.

Indebtedness of clerks in Government offices.

URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Oct. 16th, 1889.

34. The murder of a woman in cold blood in Balasore has, according to the *Uriya and Navasamvad*, of the 16th October, and the *Samvadvahika*, of the 17th

A murder in Balasore town.

October, produced a sensation in that town. The former says that a

general sense of insecurity has taken possession of the inhabitants of the town, which has been aggravated by the petty thefts which are now of frequent occurrence. It therefore requests the authorities to institute a system of effective police patrol. The *Samvādvāhikā* further says that the road connecting Balasore and Remuna is not safe, and that a temporary outpost is urgently needed at the point in the road distinguished by a large tamarind tree.

35. The Damodarpore correspondent of the *Utkaldīpikā*, of the 19th October, reports insecurity of life from another cause. A river embankment, mainly used

UTKALDĪPIKĀ,
Oct. 19th, 1889.

The ravages of a tiger.
as a public road, connecting Damodarpore with the Puri station, is infested by a man-eating tiger, which is known to live in the adjoining forest, called *Bebatīraman*, the property of Sriram Das Math of Puri, and which has already carried off several human beings. The correspondent therefore appeals to the authorities for protection.

36. The same paper has every reason to approve of that important circular of the Director of Public Instruction of the North-Western Provinces, which strictly forbids the use of keys and compendiums in all schools in that province. In its opinion, the salutary ruling is nowhere so much needed as in Bengal, where a system of cramming, fostered by the use of keys and compendiums, is weakening the youthful intellect of the present generation to a frightful degree.

UTKALDĪPIKĀ.

37. The death of the Raja of Manjusa, a Uriya potentate of the Southern Presidency, is deplored by all the Native papers of Orissa.

The late Raja of Manjusa.

38. The *Dīpaka*, of the 19th October, is informed that the arrangements made for the management of the ferry ghāt on the Kathjuri river in Cuttack are not at all satisfactory. It therefore presses the point with more than ordinary force on the attention of the Cuttack Municipality.

DĪPAKA.
Oct. 19th, 1889.

39. In making a passing allusion to the coming settlement of Orissa, the *Dīpaka* suggests that no attempt should be made to interfere with the permanent terms of the *Peshkassī* mehals of that division, and the *Samvādvāhikā* advises that the terms of settlement should by all means be moderate.

The coming Orissa settlement.

40. In spite of relief operations in certain parts of the Balasore thana, and of other symptoms of distress in other parts of that district, the *Uriya* and *Samvādvāhikā*, describe in a jubilant tone the sudden down-pour of heavy showers of rain which, lasting for several hours together, protected a great part of the crop that had not been already destroyed. They are of opinion that the apprehensions of a general scarcity in the Balasore district have been thus to a great extent removed.

URIYA AND,
SAMVADVAHIKA.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 2nd November 1889.

